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FORTS OF THE MAUMEE.
 SCHEME FOR THE PRESERVATION OF RELICS OF EARLIER DAYS.

The Influence Back of the Senate Bill on This Subject is That of the Maumee Valley Monumental Association An Interesting Chapter of History.
 Special Correspondence.]
 CINCINNATI, April 18.—The introduction in the United States senate some days ago by Mr. Sherman of a bill calling for an appropriation for the preservation of certain old forts along the Maumee river, and for the erection of monuments on the sites of those already destroyed to make room for the spread of the cities that have grown up around them, opens up an interesting chapter in the history of that part of the old northwest territory. The influence back of the bill is the Maumee Valley Monumental Association, an organization with headquarters at Toledo, whose president is Rutherford B. Hayes, who was elected to succeed the late Chief Justice Waite, who was president at the time of his death. The secretary is John C. Lee, of Toledo.

The vice presidents are Hon. R. S. Robertson, Fort Wayne; Hon. S. H. Cately, Delta; Hon. R. C. Lemmon, Toledo; R. B. Mitchell, Maumee, O., is treasurer. Other officers are Hon. Thomas Dunlap, Toledo; Daniel F. Cook, Maumee; J. Austin Scott, Ann Arbor, Mich.; Asher Cook, Perrysburg, O.; Samuel M. Young, Toledo; Reuben B. Mitchell, Maumee; Joel Foot, Tontogany, O.; F. P. Randall, Fort Wayne, and Foster R. Warren, Sylvania, O.

The association has been engaged for five years in efforts to secure possession of the most important historical points, such as forts and battle grounds in the Maumee valley, and to have them marked by suitable monuments. It has been decided that the following are worthy of commemoration: Fort Industry, the site of Toledo; Fort Miami, near Maumee City; Fort Defiance, at Defiance; Fort Meigs, near Perrysburg; Fort Wayne, at Fort Wayne, Ind.; the battle field of Fallen Timbers, near Waterville, O., and the old burial ground on Put-in-Bay island, in Lake Erie.

Of these Forts Industry, Miami, Defiance, Meigs and Wayne and the battle field of Fallen Timbers were strategic points of defense or offense in the victorious campaign of "Mad Anthony" Wayne against the Indians in 1794, and all figured conspicuously in the war of 1812. Their location is correctly indicated on the following map:



MAP OF THE MAUMEE VALLEY.
 After the defeat of Gen. St. Clair, Nov. 3, 1790, the Indians, inflamed by hatred and encouraged by successes, committed the most outrageous depredations and the grossest barbarities on the settlers. Unsuccessful campaigns against them only stimulated their carnage, and in 1793 Gen. Anthony Wayne was charged with abating it.

He was a cautious soldier, who waited for advantage and then made bold dashes for victory. His great vigilance won him the name of "Black Snake" from the Indians, and the vigor of his fighting when he was assured of the advantage another of "Hurricane." For the same trait he had long been known as Mad Anthony. Gen. Wayne advanced from Fort Washington (Cincinnati), to Fort Greenville (Greenville, Ohio), whence he sent a detachment to take possession of the position lost by St. Clair. This was accomplished and a new fort built called Fort Recovery. Wayne then continued his advance against the village of the Miami tribe, and on Aug. 8, 1794, reached the confluence of the Auglaize and the Miami of the Lakes (Maumee) rivers, where he erected Fort Defiance, giving it a name appropriate to the conditions of its building and destined to perpetuity in the name of the present city on the site.

The traces of this fort are still well defined. It is situated in the angle of the Maumee and Auglaize rivers, and has been subjected to some injury by the erosion of the waters, which have washed away portions of the northern and eastern salients, and the point is slowly receding. It is proposed to mark the spot by a granite monument, with a suitable inscription, for which it is estimated \$5,000 will be sufficient.

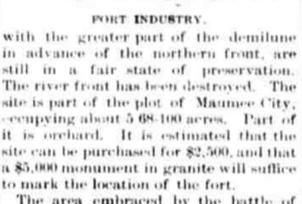
From Fort Defiance Gen. Wayne, under instructions from Washington, offered the Indians peace. In a council of Indians, Little Turtle, a chief who is said to have been possessed of statesmanship that would have won him fame in diplomatic circles of European courts, advised peace. His counsel was overthrown by the younger chiefs, who boasted of previous victories.

Turtle cautioned them against the new warrior that the Father at Washington had sent against them, but they were obstinate and voted for war. Gen. Wayne advanced and pitched his camp near Waterville. The next day (Aug. 20, 1794) he gave battle to the Indians, who were entrenched behind some high trees that had been prostrated by a tornado, whence the name of the Battle of Fallen Timbers. The Indians were overwhelmingly defeated, and Gen. Wayne pursued them several miles, even under the guns of the British Fort Miami.

Gen. Wayne passed by the fort of Miami, then garrisoned by the British, and moved down the river to the mouth of Swan creek, where he constructed a military fort, which, owing to the industry of his army in its construction, he named Fort Industry.

This fort Gen. Wayne garrisoned and it was occupied for a number of years. Its dimensions were about 200 by 150 feet, and its site is now in the busiest part of the city of Toledo, at the intersection of Monroe street and Summit avenue. All trace of it was long ago obliterated, but the fact of its location at the point indicated is preserved in the designation of a block of buildings named Fort Industry block. It is proposed to mark the spot by the erection of a granite monument with a suitable inscription. If the city will give the privilege for the use of the street corner for the purpose, it is estimated the monument can be put in position for \$3,000.

Fort Miami, which was first established as a trading post in 1680, and occupied for military purposes subsequently by the British, and abandoned by them after the treaty of 1795, is the oldest of all these historical points. The northeastern angle of the work and a portion of each adjoining curtain, together



with the greater part of the demilune in advance of the northern front, are still in a fair state of preservation. The river front has been destroyed. The site is part of the plot of Maumee City, occupying about 5 1/2-100 acres. Part of it is orchard. It is estimated that the site can be purchased for \$2,500, and that a \$5,000 monument in granite will suffice to mark the location of the fort.

The area embraced by the battle of Fallen Timbers is about twelve and one-third acres, which it is proposed to purchase, at an estimated cost of \$100 an acre, and to erect at a conspicuous point a granite monument, so as to bring the total cost within \$5,000.

Upon the completion of Fort Industry Gen. Wayne led his army back up the river to the village of the Miamis, and there, on Oct. 22, a fort having been completed, fifteen rounds of cannon were fired and the fort named Fort Wayne. It was located on the highest land in the state of Indiana, and this has given the name of the "Summit City" to the city now there. Wayne then returned to Greenville, where he represented the United States in the treaty negotiations in 1795.

A considerable portion of the site of the old fort belongs to the city of Fort Wayne, the remainder being now occupied by the New York, Chicago and St. Louis railroad. Except the well noticed of the fort now exists, and the part of the site not occupied by the railroad or the city streets is reduced to a small triangle, which is inclosed by an iron fence. It is proposed to erect within this triangle a monument similar to those suggested for the other points of interest.

The other two points determined on for commemoration, Fort Meigs and the Put-in-Bay burial ground, belong to the period of the war of 1812, when the Maumee valley became again the theatre of military operations. The hero of this campaign was Gen. William H. Harrison, who in February, 1813, erected and established Fort Meigs, ten miles from Fort Industry. While the work was in progress an unsuccessful attack was made by Tecumseh and again in July following.

Gen. Harrison and Tecumseh had first met in arms at the battle of Fallen Timbers, and they met again here, each commanding. Tecumseh is described as "one of the most splendid specimens of his tribe, celebrated for their physical proportions and the form—tall, athletic and manly, dignified, graceful, the beau ideal of an Indian chief." The victory was with Gen. Harrison, and Tecumseh was killed during this war. The outlines and works of Fort Meigs are nearly all preserved, and no plow has been permitted to run over the graves of the dead. It is embraced in the farm of Michael and Timothy Hayes, who for the twenty years of their ownership have not permitted any desecration of the graves, of which there are several hundred, almost wholly unmarked. They contain the remains of those who were killed in the battle, who died during its occupation and those who were killed in the attack on the British batteries at Fort Miami, across the river.

The area of land necessary to include the fort and the graves is about fifty-five acres, valued at \$100 an acre. The works themselves are in such a good state of preservation as to constitute their own best monument, and it is proposed only to purchase the land, erect one large monument in Fort Meigs, to cost \$10,000, and



three others at \$5,000 each to mark the burial places, making a total of \$30,500. Fort Meigs was named in honor of Gen. Meigs, but he suggested as a name for the village that in after years sprung up just east the name of Perrysburg, in commemoration of the hero of the naval victory on Lake Erie.

After this victory Commodore Perry buried his dead on the island of Put-in-Bay, now an important port on Lake Erie. The burial ground is about sixty feet from the shore of the lake, and in its center stands a willow tree, the whole inclosed by a chain fence, now in a fallen and dilapidated condition. It is included in an area conveyed by J. De Rivera to the corporation in trust for the public, to insure it against obliteration. It is proposed to erect a new iron fence and a granite monument.

OLD TIME TORNADOES.
 Some Facts Not Much Known Except to Scientists.

[Special Correspondence.]
 GREENCASTLE, Ind., April 3.—If this thing of having towns knocked out of existence in a few seconds, by unexpected blasts, is to go on indefinitely, we may as well begin to study prophylactics—if such a use of that word be allowable. Unfortunately, we seem so far to have only learned that tornadoes were once common in this great valley, and that they are likely to be common again; but nothing in the line of prevention is offered. "The wind bloweth where it listeth," and as we cannot stop it there is nothing for us but to rush to a "storm pit" when the tornado comes—if it gives us time.

But I set out to call attention to the completeness with which we have of late years mapped out the tracks of ancient tornadoes across this valley. If the tornado occurred no more than a century ago, we can still trace its course, with tolerable accuracy wherever enough of the country remains in timber; for as the trees were blown up by the roots they left a hole, and where the "root wad," as we call it, crumbled down there remained a mound, and of course the mound was on that side of the hole to which the wind was moving. Many other signs show the track of former tornadoes.

Now tradition and all those signs agree that about a century ago a fearful tornado crossed these counties near the Wabash, cutting a swath nearly a mile wide and finally terminating to the northward of this city in a grand "swirl" which twisted all the timber of a large area into one tangled mass. In the same way the old tornadoes can be tracked across Illinois and Missouri to their lair, if one may say so, in northeastern Kansas. And the painful fact is forced upon us that there is a sort of "cyclone center" in that part of the Missouri valley.

The principal fact to which I would call attention here is that the tornado of the west has a regular rise and fall. It appears to strike the earth a glancing blow at an acute angle and then bounce off into the upper air, only to come down again some miles further east and then bounce off again. Now what I want to find out is the spot where the thing "bounces," for I have no fear of a tornado that stays in the upper air; and I think I am "hard onto the spot."

Wherever there is a north or south creek or river with a high bluff on the east side, the safest place in my opinion is from two to ten miles east of that bluff—say, five miles on an average. I have observed along the Wabash and minor streams that the tornadoes (they are nearly always from the west) are turned upward by the east bluff and do not come down for some distance. I dare not swear there is a safe place in a tornado's track, but if there is, I should bet on the strip east of the east bluff.

J. H. BEADLE.

A CONTEST OF WITS.
 How One New York Newspaper Man Got Decidedly the Best of the Joke.

[Special Correspondence.]
 NEW YORK, April 3.—The newspaper workers who frequent the Astor house rotunda are having considerable amusement over a little skirmish of wit between two well known and popular workers in the profession, who, for sake of the story, may be called Jones and Brown. Brown is a veteran war correspondent and editor of a daily, and Jones is a well known special correspondent. Mr. Brown, while he is by no means a violent prohibitionist, is not what one would call a drinking man, and though he visits the rotunda, it annoys him to have his name appear in connection with constant revelry. Jones found this out, and in the spirit of mischief began to run paragraphs into his various letters always mentioning Mr. Brown in the same line with some well known bar. Mr. Brown retaliated through his paper. But Jones' paragraphs began to annoy Mr. Brown's family, and that astute gentleman cast about for some method by which to deprive them of their force. One Saturday afternoon he took his wife to a matinee, and, like a good husband, sat with her in the box all through the play. After the performance he strolled down Broadway and met Jones.

"You were not in the Astor house this afternoon, Jones," said Brown, his face beaming with innocence.
 "No; who was there?" replied Jones.
 "Oh, Dr. Norvin Green, ex Mayor Wickham, Alderman Gedney and a lot more. We sat there from 2 till 4, must have opened a case of champagne and had a charming time," said Brown.

The next morning the paragraph appeared in Jones' column with picturesque embellishments. Mr. Brown and the case of wine were in close conjunction.
 Mrs. Brown saw it at the breakfast table; first she was grieved and then puzzled.
 "You were with me yesterday afternoon between 2 and 4, William," she said.
 "From 12 to 3," responded the gentle William, promptly.

"But Mr. Jones says you were in the Astor house between 2 and 4 and were drinking wine with a lot of men," remarked Mrs. Brown, referring to the paper.
 "Oh, that's only one of Jones' yarns," said Brown, carelessly; "you know I was with you."

Then a spirit of peace settled like a white winged dove upon that household, and Jones' paragraphs no longer annoy the philosophic Brown. Down to date the joke is on Jones.

ALLAN FORMAN.

Speculation in Theatre Tickets.
 In nearly all large American cities the theatres display placards declaring that "tickets purchased from speculators on the sidewalk are worthless." Recently in New York city one street vendor of seats was shot and killed by another, and it developed that both of them had purchased the right from the theatre, in front of which the tragedy occurred, to dispose of tickets at an advance over the box office rate.

AN ANCIENT PYRAMID FOR SALE.
 The Great Cahokia Mound Offered to the United States Government.

Thomas T. Ramey, of Madison county, Ill., has a unique piece of property for sale, and he wishes the United States government to become the purchaser. It is the great



THE BIG MOUND AT CAHOKIA. Offered for sale to the United States Government. This mound is the most stupendous memorial left by the prehistoric people called the mound builders. This mound has an altitude of 102 feet, its base covers sixteen acres, and it contains at least 300,000 cubic feet of earth. Says Mr. Ramey in his letter to Senator Callom suggesting the purchase of the gigantic pyramid by the government:

"It is a parallelogram with straight sides, the longer of which are north and south. The top of the mound is flat and divided into two parts, the northern end being four or five feet higher than the southern portion, the summit containing about one and one-half acres. On the southern end, some thirty feet above the base, is a terrace or apron containing nearly two acres of ground. In the middle of this terrace at the base of the mound is a projecting point, apparently the remains of a graded pathway to ascend from the plain to the terrace. On the western side, and about thirty feet above the southern terrace, is another terrace of somewhat less extent. The side of the mound below the western terrace is very irregular and forms projecting knobs. To the northeast corner of this large structure there seems to be a small mound attached. The remaining sides are quite straight. Cahokia is the largest pyramid in the world, surpassing the pyramids of Egypt in size."

AN AFRICAN EXECUTION.
 An Interesting Extract from Advance Sheets of the April Century.

Mr. E. J. Glave, who was one of Stanley's pioneer officers, contributes to the April Century a profoundly interesting article on "The Slave Trade in the Congo Basin," the result of his observations during a residence of twenty months among the savage natives of Central Africa. Of an execution, of which he was a witness, Mr. Glave says:



"In this particular instance, the mother of a chief having died, it was decided, as usual, to celebrate the event with an execution. At the earliest streak of dawn the slow, measured beat of a big drum announces to all what is to take place, and warns the poor slave who is to be the victim that his end is nigh. * * * The executioner's assistants, having selected a suitable place for the ceremony, procure a block of wood about a foot square. The slave is then placed on this in a sitting posture; his legs are stretched out straight in front of him; the body is strapped to a stake reaching up the back to the shoulders. On each side stakes are placed under the arms as props, to which the arms are firmly bound; other lashings are made by posts driven into the ground near the ankles and knees.

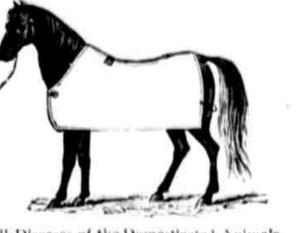
"A pole is now planted about ten feet in front of the victim, from the top of which is suspended, by a number of strings, a bamboo ring. The pole is bent over like a fishing rod, and the ring fastened round the slave's neck, which is kept rigid and stiff by the tension. During this preparation a group of dancers surround the victim and indulge in drunken mimicry of the contortions of face which the pain caused by this cruel torture forces him to show. But he has no sympathy to expect from this merciless horde.

"Presently in the distance approaches a company of two lines of young people, each holding a stem of the palm tree, so that an arch is formed between them, under which the executioner is escorted. The whole procession moves with a slow but dancing gait. Upon arriving near the doomed slave all dancing, singing and drumming cease, and the drummers take their places to witness the last act of the drama.

"An unearthly silence succeeds. The executioner wears a cap composed of black cocks' feathers; his face and neck are blackened with charcoal, except the eyes, the lids of which are painted with white chalk. The hands and arms to the elbow, and feet and legs to the knees, are also blackened. His legs are adorned profusely with broad metal anklets, and around his waist are strung wildcat skins. As he performs a wild dance around his victim, every now and then making a feint with his knife, a murmur of admiration arises from the assembled crowd. He then approaches and makes a thin chalk mark on the neck of the fated man. After two or three passes of the knife, to get the right swing, he delivers the fatal blow, and with one stroke of his keen edged weapon severs the head from the body."

The Fortune the First Consideration.
 If rich American girls are anxious to secure titled husbands, the impetuous descendants of the crusaders and the robber barons of the middle ages are not a wit behind in their desire to bring about a union of republican wealth with European rank. This was shown recently in the widely published exposure of the "International Bureau of Private Transactions, of San Francisco." The proprietor, Ludwig von Rommer, received hundreds of applications for wives from poor but noble foreigners, but before he had time to arrange any bargains and secure his own business, he was snatched and Rommer committed suicide. The eagerness of those titled cavaliers of industry to snap up unwary young women of fortune resembles nothing more nearly than the avidity of the shark. The only difference is that the prey, unfortunately, is too often a willing one.

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